

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

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VOL. XXIII No. 29

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE,

SATURDAY, MAY 5 1917.

WHOLE NUMBER 1173

ELISHA LEE



Elisha Lee, assistant general manager of the Pennsylvania railroad and chairman of the national conference committee of the railroads, has been appointed general manager of the Pennsylvania. Mr. Lee entered the service of the Pennsylvania as a rodman.

LIEUT. THOMAS LOST

Definite Information Received From Captain of Vacuum.

Master of Ship and Eight Other Men, Including Six U. S. Gunners Are Landed.

London, May 3.—The American steamer Rockingham has been sunk by a German submarine. Thirteen men are missing.

London, May 3.—Lieut. C. C. Thomas, commander of the United States gunners on the American oil ship Vacuum, and at least four of the gunners lost their lives in the sinking of the ship by a German submarine last Saturday.

Definite news of the loss of Lieutenant Thomas and the gunners was received here simultaneously with the information that Capt. S. S. Harris, master of the Vacuum, and eight other men, including six of the American naval gunners, had been rescued.

Captain Harris, after being landed at an unnamed port, sent word that S. H. Loree, an American gunner, had died of exposure after being landed from an open boat, and that Gunners A. Donald, C. J. Fisher and C. F. Leukhen were lost.

Word of the loss of Lieutenant Thomas had been transmitted by Captain Harris to United States Consul H. I. Washington, at Liverpool. From Liverpool it was transmitted to London.

SINK 400,000 TONS IN WEEK

Secretary Lane Declares Submarines Threaten the Existence of England and France.

Washington, May 3.—Secretary Lane told the governor conferring here with the council of national defense on the part state governments will take in the war, that the federal government had heard 400,000 tons of shipping had been sunk in the last week by German submarines.

The destruction, Secretary Lane said, was not only threatening the existence of England and France, but was alarming the United States. Study of inventions to combat the submarine menace is being diligently pursued in the interior department, he said.

LOSE 717 AIRSHIPS IN MONTH

Armies on West Front Record Heaviest Casualties for War, London Reports.

London, May 3.—A compilation from British, French and German official communiques shows that 717 airplanes were shot down on the western front during April. The Germans lost 309, the French and Belgians 201 and the British 147. This is a great increase over the casualties for any similar period. The highest previous total was 322, in last September.

U. S. TROOPS WILL GO TO THE FRONT

Contingent to France as Soon as Shipping Can Be Spared for Transports.

SMALL CONTINGENT AT FIRST

Both British and French Commissioners Are Enthusiastic Over the Prospects—Joffre Writes to Vice President Marshall.

Washington, May 3.—The French commissioners had assurance that the American government is willing to send troops to France—one of the urgent recommendations they brought to this country—when the allies believe they can afford to spare the necessary ships for transporting an army and its equipment across the Atlantic.

The administration has put aside the objections of the army general staff to sending any troops to the battle front until a big force has been raised and trained for nearly a year, and has decided that, for the sake of the moral effect of America's actual participation in the trench battling, a small contingent shall go forward as soon as possible.

This will be soon, it is believed, although the government is mindful that nearly 500,000 tons of shipping would be required for a regular army unit of 24,000 men, and that this amount would have to be diverted from carrying food.

Both British and French commissioners were enthusiastic over the prospects.

Loans by the United States government of \$100,000,000 each to France and Italy will be made immediately, and will bring the total advances to the allied nations to date to \$400,000,000. Other contemplated loans may bring the total advance to the allies up to \$1,250,000,000 before proceeds are available from the sale of bonds under the war finance act.

In announcing sums for France and Italy, Secretary McAdoo said that loans were under consideration for Russia, Belgium and Serbia.

Joffre Writes to Marshall.

Vice President Marshall has received a letter from Marshal Joffre declaring the passage of war army bill furnishes eloquent proof of the common will that inspires France and the United States. The letter was written in response to one by Mr. Marshall last Saturday expressing regret that senators could not attend a reception in honor of the marshal because the senate was trying to put through the army bill. The letter said:

"Dear Mr. Vice President—I wish to thank you for your warm letter in behalf of France and of her army, which I represent here. I am particularly appreciative of the words you have said in the name of the senate and which reflect so well the friendship uniting our two countries.

"The law which you have voted is a most eloquent proof of the common will that inspires us both. Kindly, I pray you, transmit to your colleagues the expression of my high appreciation for the sympathy with which they have honored me during my sojourn in Washington and receive the assurances of high appreciation.

"J. J. JOFFRE."

Italy Names Commission.

Rome, May 3.—An official announcement says that the special mission to America will be composed of Prince Udine, eldest son of the duke of Genoa, Senator Marconi, Marquis Borsarelli, undersecretary for foreign affairs, and Deputies Cluffell and Nitti, both former ministers.

GERMANS ARE IN NEW SMASH

Enemy Is "Partially" Repulsed, Paris Says—Rout Foe in the Champagne.

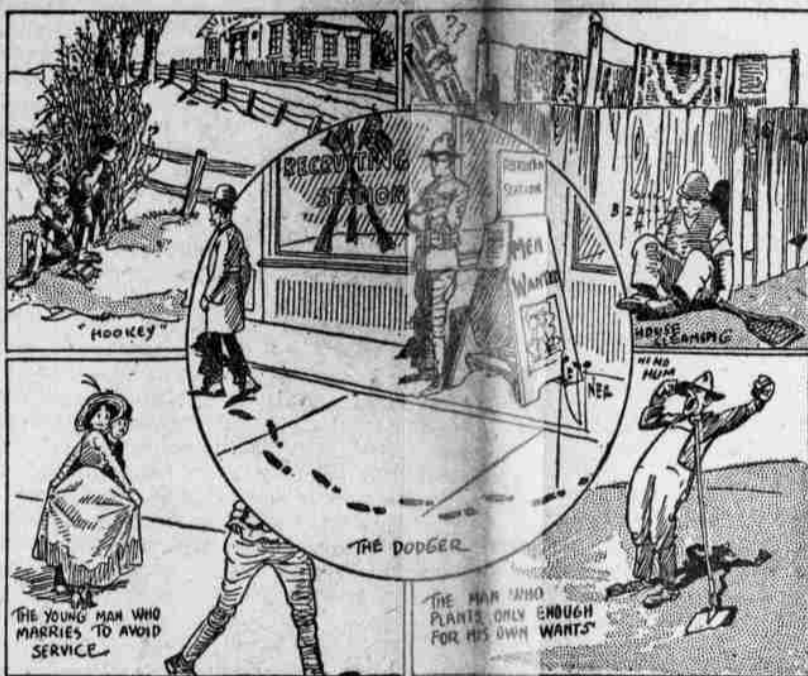
Paris, May 3.—The Germans have made several attacks on the Aisne front. The official announcement says they were partially repulsed by French machine-gun fire and grenades. In the Champagne the French made progress.

London, May 3.—"Both the artilleries were active during the night at a number of points on our front between St. Quentin and Lens," say the official statements regarding operations on the Franco-Belgian front. "In the neighborhood of Fauquissart a German raiding party was repulsed."

Milan.—The first crate of 24 quarts of strawberries of the crop of 1917 was brought here and sold to a fruit dealer for \$4 for the crate.

Lynnville.—Leaving a note in her room saying "Good-bye, you will never see me again," Miss Mackie Evans disappeared from the home of her sister.

SLACKERS



AMERICA FACED BY DISASTER

UNLESS U-BOAT WARFARE IS CHECKED—ENORMOUS INROADS ON SHIPPING ARE MADE.

LIFE OF ALLIES THREATENED

Governors Told By Members of Cabinet—It's Time Nation Hears of Facts—Destruction of Vessels Is Menacing United States.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—The enormous inroads on the world's shipping, made by German submarines within the last few weeks, have caused a realization of the disaster that is faced by the United States and the allies if the under-sea warfare is not checked. Governors and State Representatives, here for a national defense conference, will take home to their people a message from the Government, emphasizing the menace to America, and urging that the fullest co-operation by the states in war preparation if Germany is to be defeated. Secretary Lane told the conference that the great destruction of ships was threatening the existence of Great Britain and France and menacing the United States. No one, he said, knew the exact number of ships lost recently, but estimates put on week's submarine toll at 400,000 tons. Later he explained that this estimate probably was too high.

Secretary Lansing, in a statement, declared the seriousness of the submarine situation could not be exaggerated, and that it was time the country awoke to the true facts. Reports of the State Department give a total of 80 vessels lost in one week, figures much higher than any contained in recent British announcements. The British mission announced that the rate of destruction in recent weeks had continued unchanged and that it showed no alarming increase. All its members agree the situation is critical, however, and that the combined ship-building facilities of the world can meet the peril only if their output is increased tremendously.

Announcing the Government's program for exercising a more direct control over the country's shipping and shipbuilding facilities. Chairman Denman, of the Shipping Board, said estimates had reached the Board of 300,000 tons of shipping sunk in one week. The present world's ship tonnage is estimated at less than 50,000,000 tons. In 1916 the entire loss in tonnage due to war causes was put at a little more than 2,000,000 tons, or some 182,000 tons a month. At present the Germans are sinking considerably more than that each week.

BIG WAR BUDGET IS PASSED

House by a Vote of 362 to 1—Q. K.'s Bill Appropriating \$2,830,000,000.

Washington, May 3.—By a vote of 362 to 1 the house passed the budget of approximately \$2,830,000,000 to finance the first year of the war with Germany. The solitary negative vote was cast by Representative London of New York, Socialist. Many members who had voted against the war resolution and opposed the selective draft bill fell in line to advance the money to carry on the struggle. Of the vast sum appropriated about half a billion will be expended on the navy, while the cost of raising and equipping land forces will be defrayed out of the remainder.

Great Wooden Ship Fleet.

Washington.—To allay uncertainty among shipbuilders who expect to take contracts for vessels of the great wooden ship fleet, the Shipping Board announced that specifications for a standard ship would be ready in the near future. The standard ship, the announcement said, will be 280 feet over all, with a 24-foot depth of hold and with two full decks, and will be capable of developing 1,500 horse power. Officials said preparation of the specifications probably would be completed within a few days.

Temporary Barracks Will Be Built.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Colonel Edwin Glenn, who is to command the training camp at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, arrived at the post. He, with other officers at the post, inspected the construction work under way, which included sixty temporary barracks for the housing of the men of the Officers' Reserve Corps and the troops that are to be sent for training in the summer. Glenn expects to see the camp in training here within the next two months.

First Issue To Be \$2,000,000,000.

Washington.—Secretary McAdoo announced that the first offering of bonds authorized under the war finance law would be a two-billion-dollar "Liberty Loan" issue, open to popular subscription at par, and that subscriptions would be received until June 15 next. The bonds will be dated July 1, and will be ready for delivery on that date.

Government May Seize Food Supply.

Chicago.—Plans to seize at least a part of the nation's food supply are being seriously considered by the United States Government, according to District Attorney C. F. Clynne, who said that within the last few days district attorneys from the Mississippi Valley conferred in Chicago on means of taking over the food supply.

Time Off To Raise Crops.

Dallas, Texas.—The Texas and Pacific Railroad has issued a notice to all of its section and machine-shop foremen that they should place in immediate cultivation all the available space along the rights of way of this road all the way between New Orleans and El Paso. In order to provide an adequate supply of labor to carry on the work of growing the crops each section man and machine shop employee is to be given one-half day a week of the company's time to perform this work.

ULSTER EXTREMISTS WIN DAY

Said to Have Gained the Support of British Premier, Says London Daily News.

London, May 3.—The parliamentary correspondent of the Daily News says that he hears "depressing accounts of the Irish situation." He continues: "The Ulster extremists are said to have won the day and to have again obtained the support of the premier to Ulster's view. On Monday there was apparently a sort of crisis behind the scenes and Sir Edward Carson's resignation was mooted. The situation was unfortunately eased in the wrong way."

NO REPORTS FROM GERMANY

Frontier Is Sealed by Military Authorities—Believed Developments Unfavorable to Government.

Copenhagen, May 3.—For five days no German newspapers have reached here, so close has the frontier been sealed by the German military authorities. Rumors of disturbances in Germany continue to reach here by roundabout ways. The belief is prevalent here that May day developments were unfavorable to the German government.

CABINET MEMBERS DECLARE WAR MAY LAST FOR YEARS

Representatives of States Gathered at Washington Are Given Warning.

LANE PRESENTS STRONG PLEA

Secretary of the Interior Says Conflict May Be Waged on This Side of Atlantic If U. S. Don't Wake Up.

Washington, May 3.—Emphatic warning that the present war may last for years, was given the representatives of the various states, gathered here to plan concerted action in aiding the federal government to win the conflict. Cabinet members in close touch with President Wilson, made this plain. Secretary of War Baker was one of these. He did not deal in terms of days, months or years, but made it positive that Germany's war strength still is far from being exhausted.

War May Come to U. S.

It was Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, however, who presented the strongest plea. He declared that the war may yet be fought on this side of the Atlantic if the United States does not "beat Germany to it."

"We are 3,000 miles from the fighting line," he said, "and we must get there somehow. The shipyards of this nation surely can speed up construction of ships to meet this emergency. And I am sure that the inventive genius of the nation will yet find a means of successfully combating the submarine menace."

"We should not be preparing for a one-year war. Germany, according to National Food Commissioner Herbert Hoover, has sufficient food to last her two years. She has eighteen million of cattle. She has iron in abundance and plenty of coal. She has put up the greatest fight the world ever has seen and we should profit by her preparedness and lay our plans, not for one year but for future years."

"The hope of the French is that the morale of the German army will continue to break. The hope of this nation is that the morale of the American people will continue to rise."

"War is not what it was," Secretary Baker said. "There was a time when war meant merely soldiers and guns. But war now means as much factories and farms as it does soldiers. The indiscriminate calling out of men would be to expose the nation to a very serious weakness. The federal government has decided to register its man-power that this menace may be averted."

World Must Have Peace.

"I and no other man has any idea how many increments of 500,000 men will be necessary. That is beyond human judgment. The first step in their calling out will be registration. It may be conducted efficiently and orderly or with indescribable confusion. When the president signs the bill a day of registration will be set. I hope each of you will impress upon your states the necessity for making this registration day a festival occasion of the nation. You can make registration day a great and memorable occasion in our history by creating the proper atmosphere surrounding it. I earnestly ask your great help in this matter."

"The world must have peace; and there cannot be any until we go out and get it, and we can't get it without fighting for it, and the harder we fight the sooner we'll get it."

RUSS EXTREMISTS LOSE HOLD

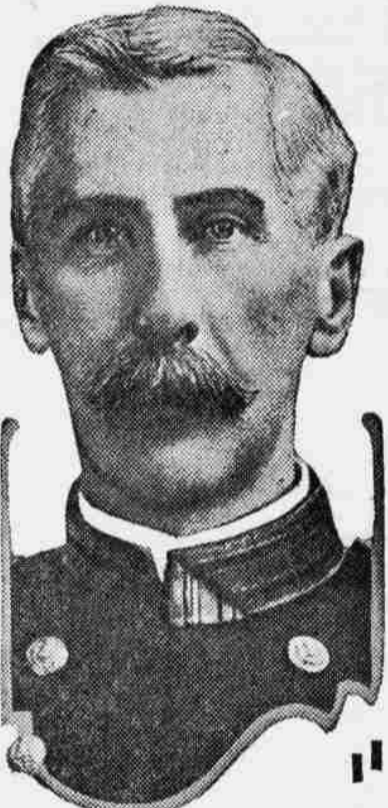
Lenine, Leader of Separate Peace Movement, Is Losing Many of His Followers.

Petrograd, May 3.—The extremist group in Russia is rapidly losing ground, it was declared in government circles here. Nicholas Lenine, leader of the separate peace movement, continues to attack the provisional government in his newspaper, but is losing many of his followers.

German aviators are swamping the Russian lines with pamphlets bearing such inscriptions as "England is the great enemy," and "England made the Revolution." No regard is paid to them by the troops, headquarters dispatches say.

Dyersburg.—Dyer county is doing its bit in the campaign for food preparedness, now being waged, and the reports coming in are of a great increase in the planting of foodstuffs, and a decrease in the planting of cotton.

CAPT. EDWARD A. ANDERSON



Capt. Edward A. Anderson, U. S. N., is supervisor of naval auxiliaries at Norfolk, Va.

BIG CHANGES PLANNED

Methods of the British Admiralty to Be Reorganized.

Step to Be Taken for the Purpose of Meeting the Submarine Menace.

London, May 3.—Important reorganizations of the staff and methods of the admiralty will shortly be put into effect for the purpose of meeting the submarine menace, according to the Daily Mail. The changes are being planned by Premier Lloyd George in collaboration with Sir Edward Carson and the war cabinet. The premier has been lately devoting much attention to the problem and has directed important inquiries with a view to the introduction of new methods.

An examination of the administrative machinery with which the admiralty has been fighting submarines in the past is said by the Mail to have convinced the premier that a reorganization is desirable. The paper specifies two directions in which important changes are contemplated—namely, the admiralty inventions board, of which Lord Fisher is chairman, and the department in control of sea traffic.

The Mail claims that the direction of sea traffic has been inefficient owing to a failure to realize the great proportions of the submarine menace.

The parliamentary correspondent of the Daily News says that he hears "depressing accounts of the Irish situation." He continues: "The Ulster extremists are said to have won the day and to have again obtained the support of the premier to Ulster's view. On Monday there was apparently a sort of crisis behind the scenes, and Sir Edward Carson's resignation was mooted. The situation unfortunately was eased in the wrong way."

GERMAN WAR DEAD 1,300,000

Decrease in Births Cause of Reduction of 2,500,000 in Kaiser's Subjects.

Amsterdam, May 3.—One million three hundred thousand Germans have perished in the war, according to a statement made by Joseph Friedrich Naumann, formerly a conservative member of the reichstag.

Herr Naumann, lecturing on the "Influence of the war on population," said in part:

"Until now the war has caused a loss of 1,300,000 dead. This, together with the decrease in births, gives a reduction of 3,800,000. The surplus of females has increased from 800,000 to far more than 2,000,000. The nation has bled as never since the thirty years' war."

GERMANS ACTIVE IN MEXICO

General Strike of Oil Workers at Tampico Has Been Called, Is Report.

Galveston, Tex., May 3.—A general strike of oil workers at Tampico, Mexico, has been called, according to officers of a tank steamer which reached an American port. Eleven loading plants have been forced to shut down, and a dozen tank steamers are lying in the harbor awaiting cargoes, the officers said. According to the tanker's men the strike was caused by German propagandists who are endeavoring to curtail the allies' supply of oil.